

REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 15-18, 23, 25, and 30-39 are pending in the present application. Claims 12-14, 19-22, 24, and 26-29 are canceled herein. Claims 30-39 have been added, and claims 1, 3-11, 15-18, and 23 have been amended herein. No new matter has been added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks.

Claims 8 and 9 have been amended and claim 12 canceled, in response to Examiner's objections. In claim 8, "corresponding pad" has been amended to "test contact" to clarify the claim limitations. Similarly, in claim 9, the "plurality of pads" has been amended to "plurality of test contacts." Applicant respectfully requests Examiner to withdraw these objections.

Claims 1-24, 26, and 28-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsuda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,730,156, hereinafter "Matsuda"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claim 1 as currently amended recites: "unloading the semiconductor device from the test carrier based on a criterion, wherein the criterion is based on the electrical coupling between the test carrier and the semiconductor device obtained from the test." Further, claim 1 as currently amended recites: "testing the electrical coupling between the semiconductor device and the test carrier." The disclosure by Matsuda does not teach the loading and unloading of semiconductor devices. Rather, it teaches a self monitoring program for identifying defective terminals in IC packages on a printed circuit board. See, for example, Figures 1 and 3 of the Matsuda disclosure. Therefore, independent claim 1 is allowable over the Matsuda reference under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Claims 2-11, 15-18, 23, 25 depend from claim 1 and add further limitations. It is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims are allowable by reason of depending from an allowable claim as well as for adding new limitations.

Applicant has made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Ira S. Matsil, Applicant's attorney, at 972-732-1001 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. No fee is believed due in connection with this filing. However, should one be deemed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge, or credit any overpayment, Deposit Account No. 50-1065.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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